

CONVENTION WITH GREAT BRITAIN.

MESSAGE

FROM THE

PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES,

TRANSMITTING

COPIES OF A CONVENTION

BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND GREAT BRITAIN,

SIGNED ON THE 13TH OF NOV. LAST AT LONDON,

PROVIDING FOR THE

PAYMENT OF CITIZENS OF THE U. STATES

FOR

Claims arising under the First Article of the Treaty of Ghent.

JANUARY 16, 1827.

Read, and referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

WASHINGTON :

PRINTED BY GALES & SEATON.

1827.

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States :

WASHINGTON, 16th January, 1827.

I communicate to both Houses of Congress copies of a Convention between the United States and Great Britain, signed on the 13th of November last at London, by the respective Plenipotentiaries of the two Governments, for the final settlement and liquidation of certain claims of indemnity of citizens of the United States which had arisen under the first article of the treaty of Ghent. It having been stipulated by this Convention that the exchange of the ratifications of the same should be made at London, the usual proclamation of it here can only be issued when that event shall have taken place ; the notice of which can scarcely be expected before the close of the present session of Congress. But it has been duly ratified on the part of the United States ; and, by the report of the Secretary of State, and the accompanying certificate herewith also communicated, it will be seen that the first half of the stipulated payment has been made by the Minister of his Britannic Majesty residing here, and has been deposited in the office of the Bank of the United States at this place, to await the disposal of Congress.

I recommend to their consideration the expediency of such legislative measures as they may deem proper for the distribution of the sum already paid, and of that hereafter to be received, among the claimants who may be found entitled to indemnity.

JOHN QUINCY ADAMS.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE, 15th January, 1827.

The Secretary of State has the honor to report to the President, that payment to the United States has, this day, been made by the British Minister of the sum of \$602,480, agreeably to the Third Article of the Convention with Great Britain, signed on the 13th day of November last; that sum being the first moiety of the gross amount stipulated, in the first article of the Convention, to be paid by Great Britain in lieu of, and in full and complete satisfaction for, all sums claimed or claimable from Great Britain under the decision of the late Emperor of Russia, and the Convention to carry it into effect, which was concluded at St. Petersburg on the 12th day of July, 1822, A procès verbale was made of the manner in which the payment was effected, of which a copy accompanies this report. The sum thus paid has been deposited in the office of the Bank of the United States at Washington, to the credit of the United States, and subject to the order of Congress.

All which is respectfully submitted.

H. CLAY.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,

Washington, 15th January, 1827.

On this day, in consequence of an appointment made by an exchange of official notes between H. Clay, Secretary of State, and the Right Honorable Charles R. Vaughan, His Britannic Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary, Mr. Vaughan attended at the Department of State, and, in pursuance of the third article of the Convention, concluded and signed, at London, on the 13th day of November last, between the United States and Great Britain, paid to the Secretary of State the sum of six hundred and two thousand four hundred and eighty dollars, being the first moiety of the gross sum which Great Britain, in the aforesaid Convention, stipulates to pay to the United States; which payment, in the presence of Daniel Brent, Chief Clerk of the Department of State of the United States, and Charles Bankhead, His Britannic Majesty's Secretary of Legation, was made by a transfer of a check or order for that sum, drawn by the Bank of the United States on its Office of Discount and Deposit, in the City of Washington, in favor of said Vaughan. Whereupon, the said Clay, Secretary of State as aforesaid, executed, in duplicate, a receipt for the said sum, and delivered it to the said Vaughan.

In testimony of all which, this procès verbale has been made and signed by the said Clay and Vaughan.

H. CLAY,
CHARLES R. VAUGHAN.

Done in presence of
DANIEL BRENT,
CHARLES BANKHEAD.

Convention between the United States and Great Britain, concluded at London the 13th of November, 1826.

Difficulties having arisen in the execution of the Convention concluded at St. Petersburg, on the 12th day of July, 1822, under the mediation of His Majesty the Emperor of all the Russias, between the United States of America and Great Britain, for the purpose of carrying into effect the decision of His Imperial Majesty, upon the differences which had arisen between the said United States and Great Britain, on the true construction and meaning of the first Article of the Treaty of Peace and Amity concluded at Ghent, on the twenty-fourth day of December, 1814 : The said United States and His Britannic Majesty, being equally desirous to obviate such difficulties, have respectively named Plenipotentiaries to treat and agree respecting the same, that is to say :

The President of the United States of America has appointed Albert Gallatin, their Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to His Britannic Majesty :

And His Majesty the King of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, the Right Honorable William Huskisson, a Member of his said Majesty's Most Honorable Privy Council, a Member of Parliament, President of the Committee of Privy Council for Affairs of Trade and Foreign Plantations, and Treasurer of his said Majesty's Navy ; and Henry Unwin Addington, Esq. late His Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires to the United States of America :

Who, after having communicated to each other their respective full powers, found to be in due and proper form, have agreed upon and concluded the following articles :

ARTICLE I.

His Majesty the King of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland agrees to pay, and the United States of America agree to receive, for the use of the persons entitled to indemnification and compensation, by virtue of the said decision and Convention, the sum of twelve hundred and four thousand nine hundred and sixty dollars, current money of the United States, in lieu of, and in full and complete satisfaction for, all sums claimed or claimable from Great Britain, by any person or persons whatsoever, under the said decision and convention.

ARTICLE II.

The object of the said Convention being thus fulfilled, that Convention is hereby declared to be cancelled and annulled, save and except the second article of the same, which has already been carried into execution by the commissioners appointed under the said Convention ; and save and except so much of the third article of the same, as relates to the definitive list of claims, and has already likewise been carried into execution by the said commissioners.

ARTICLE III.

The said sum of twelve hundred and four thousand nine hundred and sixty dollars, shall be paid at Washington, to such person or persons as shall be duly authorized, on the part of the United States, to receive the same, in two equal payments, as follows :

The payment of the first half to be made twenty days after official notification shall have been made, by the Government of the United States, to His Britannic Majesty's Minister in the said United States, of the ratification of the present Convention by the President of the United States, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate thereof.

And the payment of the second half to be made on the first day of August, 1827.

ARTICLE IV.

The above sums being taken as a full and final liquidation of all claims whatsoever arising under the said decision and Convention, both the final adjustment of those claims, and the distribution of the sums so paid by Great Britain to the United States, shall be made in such manner as the United States alone shall determine ; and the Government of Great Britain shall have no further concern or liability therein.

ARTICLE V.

It is agreed, that, from the date of the exchange of the ratifications of the present Convention, the joint commission appointed under the said Convention of St. Petersburg, of the twelfth of July, 1822, shall be dissolved ; and upon the dissolution thereof, all the documents and papers in possession of the said commission, relating to claims under that Convention, shall be delivered over to such person or persons as shall be duly authorized, on the part of the United States, to receive the same. And the British Commissioner shall make over to such person or persons, so authorized, all the documents and papers, (or authenticated copies of the same, where the originals cannot conveniently be made over,) relating to claims under the said Convention, which he may have received from his Government, for the use of the said commission, conformably to the stipulations contained in the third article of the said Convention.

ARTICLE VI.

The present Convention shall be ratified, and the ratifications shall be exchanged in London, in six months from this date, or sooner, if possible.

In witness whereof, the Plenipotentiaries aforesaid, by virtue of their respective full powers, have signed the same, and have affixed thereunto the seals of their arms.

Done at London, this thirteenth day of November, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty-six.

[L. S.]

ALBERT GALLATIN,

[L. S.]

WILLIAM HUSKISSON,

[L. S.]

HENRY UNWIN ADDINGTON.